

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 20259:30 a.m.

*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.
Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison.

Hymnals: **UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**
Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

WE GATHER

As you settle into worship, you are invited to meditate on the images adorning our altar. During this sermon series, you will see childhood games that provide more than just a playful spirit, they provide foundational life lessons that also reflect our faith. What memories and joy come forth in you as you gaze upon this altar-scape?

PRELUDE
As you settle into the sanctuary, please open your phone and share the live service from your Facebook page as a way of inviting the larger community to worship.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please take a moment to fill out the “Fellowship Pads” located in the pews at the center aisle. Be sure to note the church family worshipping in the row with you.

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRISTTFWS 2271, v.1
Come! Come! Everybody Worship
Come! Come! Everybody worship with a prayer or song of praise!
Come! Come! Everybody worship! Worship God always!
Worship and remember to keep the Sabbath day.
Take a rest and think of God; put your work away!

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP
Sing praise to God who rescues us when we fall!
Sing praise to God who walks with us on all our journeys!
Even though we fall, God lifts us and places us on paths of peace.
Even though we stray,
God finds us and brings us back to lives of hope.
Thanks be to God, whose love is continually with us.
Praise be to God, whose mercy is over us all. AMEN.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST
We invite you to turn to the person next to you and greet them saying,
“Peace be with you.”
You are invited to respond,
“And also, with you.”

*HYMN OF PRAISEDepth of MercyUMH 355

CENTERING PRAYER
We sing and speak your praise, O God, grateful for the many ways in which you have healed us. Remind us of the many ways in which you have offered, time and time again, your forgiving love to us. Heal our wounds and bind up our brokenness. Keep our hearts, our minds, and our spirits open to learn ways in which we can offer forgiveness and healing love for others. For we ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.

ANTHEMYou Are Mine
Chancel Choir

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

GOSPEL LESSONMatthew 18:21-35Pew Bible NT 20
For the Word of God in Scripture
For the Word of God among us
For the Word of God within us
Thanks be to God

HYMN OF RESPONSEGod, How Can We ForgiveTFWS 2169

WORDS OF THE PROPHETMicah 7:18-19Pew Bible, OT 868

SERMONWell Played LifeRev. Jill Hubbard-Smith
Sorry: Finding Forgiveness

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

SHARING OUR PRAYERS
During this time, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation.
After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...
Lord, Hear Our Prayer

PRAYERS FOR ALL GOD’S BELOVED PEOPLELORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD
Offering plates are available at each door as you depart.
You may also give online or by mail to the church office.

*PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTSTFWS 2271, v.3
Come! Come! Everybody Worship
Come! Come! Everybody worship with a prayer or song of praise!
Come! Come! Everybody worship! Worship God always!
Worship and remember your blessings great and small.
Give to God an offering; show your thanks for all!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Loving God, we bring our offerings to you in praise of your compassionate mercy. May they be used as gifts of forgiveness and invitation to renew a right relationship with you and one another through the power of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

*HYMN OF DEDICATIONHelp Us Accept Each OtherUMH 560

*SENDING FORTH

*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLDW&S 3180
As We Part for the Towns and Cities
As we part for the towns and cities,
where you summon us to go, guide us, Lord,
give us strength and courage, teach us all we need to know.
Keep us humble, fixed on you, forever seeking, born anew.
Kindle holy fires within us; may your Holy Spirit glow.

*POSTLUDE

Our Service Of Worship Has Ended
Our Worship Through Service Begins

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given in honor of Robin Latham’s birthday by Bonnie McNamara.
Given in loving memory of Lou Sama by Peg Kuchen.

ALTAR ROSE:

WORDS OF WELCOME

Welcome to this service of worship. We pray this service offered an opportunity to engage with the Divine. If we can be of service to you in any way, please let us know. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining together with us, where we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- There are **hearing devices** to assist you to experience the service more clearly, with our streaming team, in the rear of the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up.
- A **rocking chair** is available for the comfort of parent and baby, in Blair Chapel, behind the pews.
- To access the **restrooms**, please exit the side door to the right of the lectern/chancel area. In the hall, make a left into Fellowship Hall and follow the signs.
- There are **infant changing tables** available in the restrooms.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM THIS MORNING

Greeter/Usher: Jack Coleman/Paul Bradley
Acolyte: Faye Snorton
Lay Reader: Ron Puryear
Counters: Randy Danielson, Jane Gittines

This Week We Hold in Prayer...



Our Homebound: David Miller, Bev Itell, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould
Sunnyside at Wall: Nancy Burt

**The church has a team of prayer warriors, known as the Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer need, please contact the office.
**If you know someone who is in need of pastoral care, please contact Jill Hubbard-Smith 732-209-4563 or revjimhs@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL-begins September 7th. The class meets at 11 a.m. in Wesley Hall and will begin the year by studying Adam Hamilton’s *John: The Gospel of Light and Life*. There is a companion book of the same name that you may purchase on your own to enhance the study but it is not mandatory. All other materials will be provided.

UWIF KIT NIGHT is this Tuesday in Fellowship Hall. All are invited to help the UWIF assemble the kits and then enjoy ice cream after the job has been completed. Please arrive at 7 p.m.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY is running low again. After our appeal on Facebook brought in donations, those donations went quickly. Needed at this time are powdered milk, stew, whole grain cereal, hygiene products, applesauce, canned chicken, canned salmon, canned ham, olive oil, crackers, spices, dried fruit, instant mashed potatoes, nuts, peanut butter, & shelf-stable milk.

FREE COMMUNITY SPAGHETTI DINNER tonight at 5 pm. You may eat in or take out a meal of salad, bread, spaghetti with or without meatballs and sausage, and dessert. This is not only an outreach to our congregation but to our community. Please invite your friends, neighbors, & family.

JAVA WITH JILL-will meet at the Blue Swan Diner on Tuesday, August 26th at 10 a.m. This is an informal gathering of church friends. All are invited and encouraged to join in.

SPIRITUAL SEEKERS-is taking the month of August off. Please join them on September 9th at 10:30 a.m. Place and program TBA.

COFFEE CANS-Wesley Nursery School is collecting 10.3 or 11 oz. empty coffee cans with lids. Please drop them off in the church office.

5TH SUNDAY MONTH-August is a 5th Sunday month. Please use the yellow offering envelopes for your donation.

MERCY CENTER-although Mercy Center is always taking all donations, right now they are focusing on canned pasta, SPAM, pancake mix, corn, pasta sauce, seasonings, toothbrushes (single packs), diapers, body wash, laundry detergent, and Ramen noodles.

AUGUST’S COMMUNION OFFERING benefits UMCOR Disaster Relief. Please use the LOVE envelopes for your offering.

PRAYER GARDEN WORSHIP-There will be a worship service including communion in the Prayer Garden on September 7th at 8 a.m. Please spread the word.

Please Join Us In Mission and Ministry
where we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.

Sunday, TODAY

Service of Worship In Person & Online 9:30 a.m.
Free Community Dinner – Fellowship Hall 5 p.m.

Monday, August 18

AA – Wesley Hall 7:30 a.m.
Alanon – Wesley Hall 10 a.m.
12 Step Study – Fellowship Hall 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 19

Women’s Covenant Group – Library 8:30 a.m.
Naranon – Wesley Hall 11 a.m.
UWIF Kit Night – Fellowship Hall 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 20

Praise Team Rehearsal – Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 21

Alanon – Wesley Hall 10 a.m.

Friday, August 15

AA – Wesley Hall 7 p.m.

Sunday, August 24

Service of Worship in Person & Online 9:30 a.m.

Well-Played Life:
Lessons of Faith in Childhood Games

The First United Methodist Church

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<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

CCLI #1588788

*The First United Methodist Church of Oakhurst
Is a community of faith committed to Christ,
seeking to learn the needs of our members,
friends, and neighbors and responding with Christian love.*

Pastor: Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

Secretary: Joy More

Director of Music: Denise Furda

Sexton: Lisa Costello

Streaming Team: Chip Stoll, Rob Crowther, Johnny Tocci

Director of Wesley Nursery School: Noel Worthington

Music Director Emeritus: Gary Farquhar